Constitution of the Graduate Assembly of Students in Psychology

ARTICLE I – Name
The name of this organization is the Graduate Assembly of Students in Psychology, hereinafter referred to as GASP.

ARTICLE II – Purpose
The purpose of GASP is to support graduate students in the psychology department by 1) advocating for student rights and resources, 2) facilitating the dissemination of vital information, and 3) promoting the creation of social networks.

ARTICLE III – Membership
All registered graduate students in psychology at Berkeley are automatically members of GASP.

There will be no other conditions of membership.

Only currently registered students, faculty and staff may be active members in a registered student organization. Only active members may vote or hold office. All members of GASP are considered active members.

We will not haze according to California State Law; we will not restrict membership based upon race, color, national origin, religion, sex, physical and mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship or status as a covered veteran (special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran or any other veteran who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized).

ARTICLE IV-Officers/Elections
Offices.
There are five offices: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraiser and Webmaster. There are also four representatives, one from each area: CBB, Developmental, Social/Personality and Clinical. Individuals may not hold more than one office simultaneously, but may hold an office and a representative position. The officers constitute the executive committee.

Duties.
The President may delegate duties to officers appropriate to their title.
Terms of office.
Terms are for one year: from the first day of instruction to the last day of summer before the next academic year.

Elections.
Officers will be elected at the last meeting of the academic year. An announcement of candidates and the election will be made by email to the entire psychology graduate student list (psychgrads) at least two weeks prior to the election. Absentee votes will be accepted by email to the GASP address before the date of the election. The candidate with the majority of the votes received will be the new officer for that position.

Removal from office.
Officers may be removed by overwhelming social pressure to resign. If that does not work, a majority of the membership at a meeting with a quorum may vote to hold a recall election. The election will be held at the next meeting if it is at least one week away from the date notice is given to the membership at large. Officers may be recalled by a two-thirds majority of those voting as long as two-thirds is at least 10% of the eligible membership.

Replacement officers.
Should any office become vacant for any reason, including a lack of candidates to fill vacated positions, the President may appoint an interim officer with the approval of the executive committee. Appointments may be postponed until the beginning of the following school year to allow recruitment of 1st year students. Should the office of President become vacant, the Secretary may assume the office of the President or appoint another President with the approval of the other members of the executive committee.

ARTICLE V-Meetings
GASP will meet once a month on a regular day and time to be decided by the incumbent executive committee. The President will remind members of the meeting by email or delegate this duty to another officer. The President may also call emergency meetings or meetings of subcommittees or the executive committee. A quorum is necessary to hold an official GASP meeting, though subcommittee meetings may be held without a quorum. To have a quorum, at least three of five officers must be present, including the President or Secretary, and at least five members total. Additionally, those present must be from at least two areas.

ARTICLE VI-Constitutional Amendments
Members may propose constitutional amendments at official GASP meetings. Such proposals will be voted on at the next election. A special election may be held as specified under “Removal from office.” To pass, an amendment requires a two-thirds majority of those voting and this two-thirds must be at least 10% of the eligible membership.

All amendments, additions or deletions must be filed with the Office of Student Life, 102 Sproul Hall. All amendments, additions or deletions must also be filed with the ASUC Office of Student Affairs, 400 Eshleman Hall within one week of adoption.

ARTICLE VII-Dissolution
Dissolution may be proposed at any regular meeting. If two-thirds of those attending vote in favor of dissolution, a vote will be put to the general membership as described under “Removal from office.” Dissolution requires a two-thirds majority of those voting and this two-thirds must be at least 10% of the eligible membership.

All unspent ASUC funds shall remain the property of ASUC, all Graduate Assembly funds shall remain the property of the Graduate Assembly. Remaining privately-obtained funds may be donated to another nonprofit organization with prior approval of the ASUC Senate Finance Committee.

ARTICLE VIII-Other
For questions of order not covered in this constitution, the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order will be the official guide.